

## TELL EDFU

### **22. Headrest of Qar, called Pepi-nefer**

Tell Edfu. Mastaba of Qar (M.V)

Sixth Dynasty

H. 20 cm, calcite (travertine)

Cairo, Egyptian Museum, Inv. No. JE 66919

Qar, called Pepi-nefer or Merire-nefer, was the nomarch of Edfu during the reign of Pepi I and Merenre of the Sixth Dynasty. His mud brick mastaba, apparently untouched, was discovered by *sebakhin* in 1912. His sandstone offering niche with a limestone stela, famous for its biographical inscription, was taken to the Cairo Museum (JE 43371); the rest of the superstructure was destroyed by *sebakh* digging and the location of the mastaba was lost for the next 20 years. Only then one of the local guards yielded to members of the French mission working at the site information as to the original location of Pepi-nefer's mastaba. In 1937 the French-Polish mission discovered on that spot three intact shafts of the destroyed mastaba with richly furnished burial chambers, among them the resting place of Qar himself.

The headrest was found in the burial chamber of Qar, under the head of the deceased. The inscription on the shaft gives the name and titles of the deceased: *Sole friend, lector priest, honored by the Great God, Qar*. A similar inscription on the base reads: *Sole friend, lector priest, honored by Anubis who is upon his Mountain, Qar*. The mention of Anubis, the divine protector of the deceased, indicates that the headrest was intended exclusively for funerary use.

J.A.

B. Bruyère, J. Manteuffel, K. Michałowski, J. Sainte Fare Garnot, *Tell Edfou 1937. Fouilles franco-polonaises. Rapports I*, Le Caire 1937, p. 102, No. 4, pl. XVI, 1

*Centenaire de l'Institut français d'archéologie orientale. Musée du Caire. 8 janvier-8 février 1981*

Préface de P. E. to Docteur Chehata Adam, Le Caire 1981, No. 60, pp. 98-99

G. Daressy, *Inscriptions du mastaba de Pepi-nefer à Edfou*, *ASAE* 17 (1917), pp. 130-140

M. el-Khadragy, *The Edfu offering niche of Qar in the Cairo Museum*, *SAK* 30 (2002), pp. 203-228

